MONTEREY NEWS

FEBRUARY 1987

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT

A committee of townspeople has been working, at the request of the Planning Board, to draft an Open Space and Recreation Plan for Monterey, aimed at articulating goals and guidelines for the use and preservation of local resources over the next five years. Towns must file such plans to gain access to state and federal funds for the acquisition of land for conservation and/or recreation. Stockbridge, Cheshire, and Becket are nearby towns which have completed such plans. Stockbridge used funds acquired this way to buy Gould Meadow, the land sloping toward Stockbridge Bowl from Tanglewood.

Our Open Space Committee wrote and mailed a questionnaire last summer to every tax-paying household in Monterey as part of a requirement of local participation in formulating a plan. Townspeople were asked for their opinions and advice on matters of growth and planning. One hundred twenty of the seven hundred mailed were returned (17%), a good showing as these things go. The answers represented 300 persons. Here are a few figures:

— Do we need an expanded recreation program? 69% yes, 32% no.

— Is Monterey a rural town? 67% yes; a vacation home community? 40% yes; a "fast-growing town?" 38% yes.
— Your wish for future character of the town? remain rural, 76%; farmland community, 41%; less growth, 65%; more growth, 5%; retain present character, 26%.
— Do you favor zoning to preserve open space? 62% yes; 8% no; 10% uncertain.
— Should Monterey acquire land for open space preservation? 74% yes; 10% no; 5% uncertain.
— How should such land acquisition be financed? Private donations, 69%; with state and federal matching funds, 55%; by levying a Real Estate Transfer Tax, 49%; a state program purchasing development rights of farmland, 43%; open space purchases directly from tax revenues, 26%. The strongest opposition to any of these plans was 8% against a Real Estate Transfer Tax.

What all this tells us is of course open to interpretation. What do the 83% of nonresponding households think? Have they no hope of effecting change? Do they feel the idea of open space planning is elitist, or just means more regulations, or do they just not have time to answer questionnaires, or don't they care about the issue? However you take it the questionnaire is just one source of information the committee is using to formulate the plan.

We are also using the 1974 publication, *Which Way Monterey? A Natural Resource Inventory and Land Use Plan.* This is a remarkably detailed study of the town's geography and population, with maps of soil types, slopes, watersheds, wetlands, aquifers, forests, farmlands, etc. Other essential sources of information have been interviews with town boards, open meetings, and contacts with the Soil Conservation Service.

Since outlining some very general goals the committee has been working to set down how these goals can be met. We've come to realize that the preservation of open spaces and development of recreation areas are in themselves not enough to guarantee that the protection of natural resources is balanced against the demands of the marketplace. For example, we all agree that it's important to protect the quality of water in Monterey; the hard work is figuring out how to do it.

Acceptance of our plan by the state will give us access to money with which to accomplish some of our goals. Donations of land, such as those made recently to the Monterey Land Trust, will also help. But most important, FOR THE PLAN TO WORK IT MUST BE ACCEPTED BY THE TOWN.

Committee members are Eileen Clawson, Nancy Kalodner, Mark Makuc, Michèle Miller, Joyce Scheffey, Bob Thieriot, Dek Tillett, and Roger Tryon. Our meetings are every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Town offices. Call Michèle Miller at 528-3454 for information.

MANY THANKS !!

TO ALL OF YOU WHO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MONTEREY CHURCH AS WE CONTINUE OUR FUND-RAISING DRIVE.

The Finance Committee
Monterey U.C.C.

SERVICE: SUNDAY 10:30 a.m.
Robert Palin, Pastor

CHURCH NEWS

The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, February 22, at the regular service, 10:30 a.m.

To the members and friends of the
Monterey United Church of Christ:

At last I am very glad to arrive in Monterey and to begin serving as pastor. The care in making the parsonage like new again feels like a warm welcome and is the result of much hard work under the capable guidance of Priscilla Gulliver. Already I experience an abundance of good will here. Also, there is much diversity. Indeed, the number of religious languages among us challenges communication. Growing in faith and service, we'll find more common ground.

"Growth takes commitment and hard work," as one of the church's most committed and hardest-working women put it. Growing pains come with change. Just being here is a change for me and also for you.

The best times to reach me are Mondays and Thursdays from 1:30 to 5:30 in the afternoon or Tuesday mornings from 9 to 12. At any time you may leave a message and I'll return your call. My phone number is 528-5850.

I have much to say, but I also want to listen a lot. Over the past 18 months, the Lay Ministry talked a lot and listened to each other and valued the growth gained in understanding ministry. This is not the time to quit, if we want to move ahead. Let's enjoy the prospects of meeting often: individually, in small groups, in fellowship, service and worship.

The calendar of services and meetings is better known to you than to me. I am the sapling, you the forest. Help me grow, too. I share the following material; a prayer by Thomas Merton, Trappist monk, inspiration of contemplatives and activists, Christians and others. I am conscious that we are not alone, no matter how treasured or simple our relationship to Christ is. We are the Body of Christ together, and not just here.

With active good will,

Robert Palin

The new minister confronts God's bounty: Robert Palin shovels snow from the church steps.

Prayer from *Thoughts in Solitude*

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

SUSAN McALLESTER

. . . and Judy Hayes helped him.

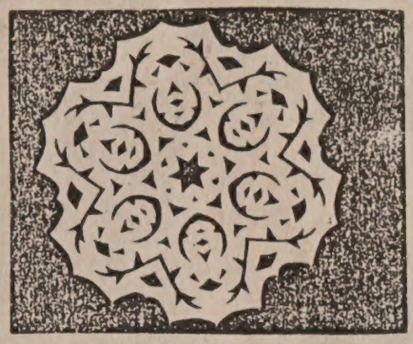
UPON MY WORD!

One of the secret joys of my life is my copy of *Chambers Scots Dictionary*. A gentle perusal of its words yields continual delight. Here are words reflecting poetic imagery beyond belief. I have taken upon myself an attempt to place a few back in circulation, at least, among family and friends.

Take, for instance, the noun *whutterick-fuffing*. This word has come to mean for us an intimate party. Actually, its definition is "a gathering of weasels." Now, who has seen one or two weasels at the same time? Probably only Bonner McAllester! But should a Scot encounter more than two, he has the word ready to hand. While waiting for this grand experience, we have taken to inviting folks to "whutterick-fuffings" at our house, weasels not withstanding. An invitation to any hereabouts goes without saying.

— A. O. Howell

Handmade
Country Classics
SEEK NO FURTHER
Country Crafts
S.R. 70. Box 70 C
Great Barrington. MA 01230
Check, M.O., M.C., VISA
Brochure $1.00 or FREE with order.



THE New Spirit
RTE. 23 · MONTEREY · MA · 01245 · 413-528-4889
The Southern Berkshires
Largest Selection of 1987 Calendars
- 10% off through Dec. 10 -
audubon · unicef · crystals · astrological
trees · leaves · flowers · rainbow · canyons
monet · van gogh · children of the world
sacred spaces · himalayan · moon · peace
sulamith wulfing · einstein · sara steele
and more !
OPEN mon.-sat. 10-5 sun. 1-4 OPEN

ARTS COUNCIL NEWS

The Third Annual Monterey Arts Council Film Festival will begin on Saturday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. and continue for five Saturdays. All films will be shown in the basement of the Monterey United Church of Christ. Tickets are very reasonably priced at $2.50 per person and $1.00 for Seniors and children. For added attractions there are cartoons and lots of free popcorn.

March 7 is a comedy, the original PINK PANTHER, directed by Blake Edwards and starring Peter Sellers as our favorite bumbler, Inspector Clouseau. The film also stars the suave, sophisticated David Niven and the elegant French actress Capucine.

March 14 is RASHOMON, directed by Akira Kurosawa and starring Tashiro Mifune. The title means "the truth." It is a stark tale of murder and four baffling versions of what happened. This poetic, artistic film won an Oscar for best foreign film.

March 21, DIM SUM, a recent release by Chinese-American director Wayne Wang, is a delightful comedy about family relationships in San Francisco's Chinatown. A unique perception of American life.

March 28, HENRY V, was commissioned by the British government during World War II to raise British morale. The combination of Shakespeare and Olivier (director and King Henry) produced a great film classic of wit, costume, action, and grandiloquence.

April 4, THE HORSE'S MOUTH stars the inimitable Alec Guinness as the unpredictable, hilarious, fictional artist Gulley Jimson in Joyce Cary's novel. The film ranges from the subtlest to the broadest of English wit.

20+ years in the business
GILE REAL ESTATE
Box 114, Route 8, Otis, MA
269-4048
Open 7 days a week—8 a.m.—?
VACATION HOME SPECIALIST
We Have Style
CALL LAURA GILE YOUR MONTEREY BROKER
DIAL GILE 269-4048
Call us today!

SUSAN McALLESTER

MONTEREY NEIGHBOR: EDITH WILSON

Monterey artist Edith Lavinia Wilson arrived in town in 1942 from Chicago. Until that time, she had operated Gallery House, an art studio and gallery, devoted "primarily to the work of young artists." Marjorie McLaughlin, Edith's longtime friend, had family in New York, and it was through them that she discovered the Berkshires.

Born in Cairo, Illinois, Edith was graduated from high school there and went on to attend Sullins College in Virginia, a place she described as something of a "finishing school." From there, she went on to study at the Art Institute of Chicago. It was after four years of study and the completion of a B.F.A degree, that Edith opened her studio/gallery. It ran successfully for two and a half years until it was destroyed by a fire.

"The war broke out, and I was so sick after the fire. We came out for the summer planning to go back to Chicago — and we never left."

Raymond Ensign was running the Brookbend Inn then. Coincidentally, Mr. Ensign had formerly held the position of Director of the Art Institute of Chicago where Edith had studied.

"The Inn was a fascinating place in those days," Edith remembered. "There were many European refugees there. People from Finland, France...one of the most famous was a writer named Sigrid Undset. She lived there for two or three summers and actually, I believe, wrote one of her books there." Ms. Undset's most well-known work is entitled, *Kristin Lavransdatter*.

Although Edith had not formally made the acquaintance of Mr. Ensign in Chicago, they became friends in Monterey. "In fact, Mr. Ensign helped us find our house on New Marlborough Road."

After they moved into their home, Marjorie started her interior design business and Edith continued to paint, mainly in oils. "I supported myself by doing portraits," she said. When asked if portraiture was a difficult occupation, Edith answered, "Copying a face is not too hard, but painting what's *inside* a person is something else again."

She eventually gave up portrait painting, because, she said, "I like to paint out of my head."

She then became interested in architecture and designed several houses in Monterey including Ray and Mary Ward's home on Route 23 and Helen Shaw's on Tyringham Road. In fact, this reporter was surprised and pleased to learn that Edith was responsible for the interior renovations on the house we now live in on Beartown Road.

Edith's involvement in town affairs is long-standing. "Originally, in the '40s, I began to live as if I was going to stay." Her first job was on the school board. "This was before the region was formed. There were just the two little schools, you know." She was responsible for improvements in the Monterey schoolhouse. "I had to fight to get rid of that woodstove and replace it with a furnace. Back then, the toilets were right up front as you walked in the door. We moved them to the back of the building...

"Then, many years ago, several of us got permission from the Selectmen to form an ad hoc committee to get Monterey some by-laws. Bill Mielke, Dean Amidon, Barbara Tryon and Jan Lanoue were involved, I believe.

"It took forever to get a vote from the town for a subdivision control by-law (in the late '50s).

"We were the original planning board," she said.

She remembered a lot of opposition in town to the committee's work. In fact, a group of people got together and put an article on the warrant to dissolve the committee, at one point. The article was defeated.

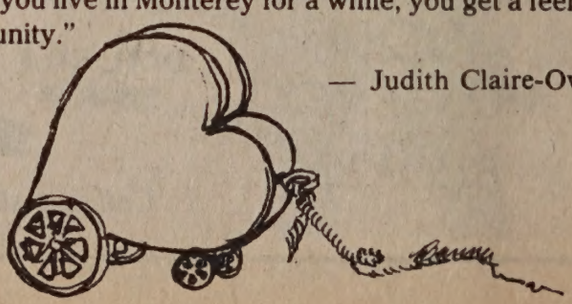
From there, Edith went on the Board of Appeals. It's only in the past few years that she has stopped running for that board. She is currently an appointed member of the Historical Committee. "Though what we do, I don't know," she laughed.

Edith was the Art Editor for the original *Monterey News* and continued in that capacity until very recently.

Of years gone past in Monterey, she said, "I used to know every house and who lived in it, who their children were, their dogs, what cars they drove...Now I don't know anybody. It's a real change; one I sort of resent...

"When you live in Monterey for a while, you get a feeling of community."

— Judith Claire-Owen



THE ROADSIDE STORE
South County's Greatest
★ HOMESTYLE BREAKFAST ★
(Lunches, Too)
Self-Help Crafts
Gound Farm Crafts
• Snack Bar & Grill
• Homemade Baked Goods
• Gasoline & Sundries
Rte. 23, Monterey 528-2633
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Weekdays 7:30-5:50 Sat. 9-5:50 Sun. 9-3

Rosemary Brannigan
Healer Nurse Educator
425 Old Monterey Road
Great Barrington, Mass. 01230
Telephone 413-528-5077

Chris Bragdon
Sales Associate
REALTY WORLD.
REALTY WORLD® — Hebert Realty, Inc.
Route #23, Village Center, Monterey, MA 01245
Bus: (413) 528-3170 Res: (413) 258-3311
Each office independently owned and operated

Candice Piretti
Sales Associate
REALTY WORLD.
REALTY WORLD® — Hebert Realty, Inc.
Route #23 Village Center, Monterey, MA 01245
Bus: (413) 528-3170 Res: (413) 243-3133
Each office independently owned and operated

THE KEYES SPRINGLOT

If you head east from the town center along the main road, after a stretch of fairly straight and level going there is a series of dips and turns that lie above the east end of Lake Garfield. One bend will slow you down more than the others, a place where a small stream cuts down the hill for the lake and the road dips over the cut as it swings to the north. This is called Keyes Corner, named for the Keyes family (rhymes with skies) who lived in the large white house tucked on the inside of the curve. The falling-down barn back of the house was the subject of Bonner McAllester's reflections in her column last month. The Keyes and McAllester families are related through Susan McAllester, Bonner's mother and niece of Minnie Keyes, wife of Clinton, who was George Keyes's son.

George Keyes farmed here all his life, which spanned the turn of the century. He kept a garden, and there was a potato field as well as an orchard on the hillside across the road from the house. A hayfield opened the view down to Lake Garfield. George was an all-around enterprising Yank, not just a farmer. He served the town as a Selectman and was partners in business with one Rev. Elsing in New York City. They worked together to accommodate city folk who wanted a place of their own in the countryside. George bought up land around his farm and divided it into parcels on which he built cottages. Reverend Elsing sent prospects up from the city on the train to Great Barrington, where George met them and drove his horse and buggy back up into the hills to show them around. He was perhaps Monterey's first builder of spec houses for seasonal occupancy.

In our time the sort of enterprise George pioneered with Rev. Elsing has burgeoned so rapidly that commercial development of the second-home market threatens to eat up the very countryside that city dwellers so long for and year-round residents routinely enjoy. The Monterey Preservation Land Trust is a local group organized in the last few years to develop alternatives to the continual division of land for housing. We seek to preserve open space in town, especially land with significant natural resources, like farmland, aquifers and forest. We are a nonprofit corporate entity duly constituted to own land.

At the end of 1985 we received several gifts of land from Montereyans who share our point of view. The very first of these came from Richard and Marianne Jaffe. It is a springlot just south of Route 23, right on Keyes Corner. George built the original springhorse on this lot and laid pipeline to serve a number of the cottages he built and sold. By a covenant that accompanies the deed transferring this parcel to the Land Trust, no structure may be built here. It's a small piece of ground come full circle in the local history, once part of the enterprise that brought people here from out of town to enjoy the undisturbed beauty of Monterey, now the first piece of what we hope will, in time, be large tracts of land specifically secured to preserve what was here before any of us arrived on the scene.

— Peter Murkett

INDIAN NOTES

Biographical Sketch of Capt. Hendrick Aupaumut, from *Stockbridge Past and Present*, 1854

Capt. Hendrick Aupaumut, according to a common custom of the (Mahican) Tribe, dropped the Indian name, Aupaumut, and was known as Capt. Hendrick. Since then, *Hendrick* has been the surname of the family. He never professed religion, it would seem, but he appeared to *possess* it, and was ever the firm friend of its institutions and its ministers. In personal appearance, "his gait," says one, "and his demeanor, appeared like royalty." He was truly eloquent, and by this, and his authority alone, he was *able* to conquer. He was often employed as interpreter; and in this capacity his "strong memory, his clear lucid manner, and his mind-illuminated face," as he conveyed the thoughts of a preacher to his people, are highly praised. His public speeches are spoken of as "always remarkable for perspicuity and sound sense." "I have," says our informant, "seen many Indian Chiefs, but never his equal."

In 1810, Capt. Hendrick was on the White River, with his son Abner, and designed to have settled on the land given the Stockbridges by the Miamis. He formed the plan of collecting all the eastern Indians in that region, where they might live in peace with the whites, and in fellowship with each other, and, he *hoped*, be no farther wasted. He had sent a speech to his people upon the subject in 1809, and was waiting anxiously for a reply. "I think," says he, "a kind Providence blesses the means for so desirable an end. I often wish to be at home, to see what my people are doing, that is, when my weakness overpowers for some anxious care for our National business at home, lest they hasten to destruction of our National honor and prosperity, as well as our existence. But when I consider the promises of the Great and Good Spirit, then I would cheerfully cast all my care upon him."

It was at this time that Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet, were plotting against our government . . . being provoked by repeated injuries, the followers of the Chieftain and the Prophet were resolved to unite all in a league which should forever put an end to pale-faced aggression.

Here, then, was another temptation to Capt. Hendrick. The plan of union was in some respects similar to his own, and there was much in the noble nature of Tecumseh to win, and in the cunning nature of the Prophet to entrap. But he loved the white man . . . and united with all the characteristic ardor of his nature in the cause of America . . . and Mr. Sergeant, in a letter to the Commissioners, says, "It appears that through the judicious arrangements of Capt. Hendrick, the influence of the Prophet is nearly at an end . . . ." Capt. Hendrick joined the American army, was favorably noticed and promoted to office. Afterwards he returned to New York and was one of the last to remove to Green Bay.

— Electa Jones, quoted by
David P. McAllester

Stress Transformation Class
The Eight Basic Movements
based on Feldenkrais ATM
(Awareness through Movements)
Monterey Church, Social Room
Monday 6:30 p.m., starts Feb.9
$ 25 - 12 wks - first class free

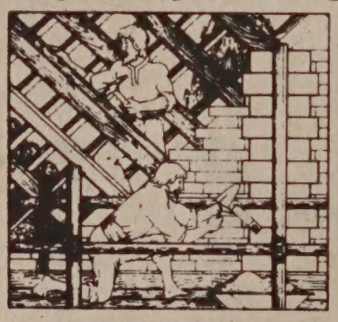
528-4889 10-4
528-2076 after 6

NEW BODY

STEPHEN REDDY
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
RENOVATIONS REMODELING

TELEPHONE
(413) 528-0017
LIC/ 042916
MONTEREY, MA. 01245

MONTEREY MASONRY, INC.



- CUSTOM BRICK, STONE, AND STUCCO WORK
- SPECIALIZING IN 18th AND 19th CENTURY RESTORATION
- RUMFORD FIREPLACES
- CHIMNEYS REPAIRED AND REBUILT
- CERAMIC TILE WORK

EXPERIENCED AND INSURED

MARK MENDEL 413-528-4136
BOX 343
MONTEREY, MASSACHUSETTS
01245

TownScapes
LIMITED EDITION PRINTS
OF THE BERKSHIRES.
by
Leonard Weber
HAYLOFT GALLERY · MONTEREY
528·1806

SUSAN McALLESTER

PERSONAL NOTES

Hearty congratulations to **Mark** and **Tracey Mendel** of Tyringham Road on the birth of their daughter, **Bridget Luisa**, on January 15. She was born at the Birth Center in Pittsfield, weighing in at 7 lb. 7 oz. Bridget has joined **Julian Carlos** at home, who incidentally had celebrated his first birthday just two days earlier, January 13. Seems you'll have your hands full, Mendels—enjoy!

Hats off to Monterey actor **Morgan Schick**, eight, who shared the central role of Bilbo Baggins in the presentation of J. R. R. Tolkien's fantasy adventure *The Hobbit* on December 26, 27 and 28. Morgan, son of **Joel** and **Alice Schick** of Main Road, is a member of the Berkshire Public Theatre Children's Ensemble. A third grader at Berkshire Country Day School, Morgan has been performing with the group since he was five. Good job, Morgan!

Hearty congratulations also to **Joel Kalodner**, son of **Nancy Kalodner** of Beartown Road, who was named to the honor roll list for the first semester at Phillips Academy, Andover. Joel, a sophomore, began his studies there this year. You're off to a great start, Joel—keep up the good work!

Are you tired of reading about **Natasha Grotz** and her skiing adventures? Well, I can't help it, folks—she's done it again. Natasha has earned one second and two first place finishes in the first three Berkshire County high school alpine ski races at Brodie Mountain. Natasha, a ninth grade student, skis as an independent for Mt. Everett. Hopefully, there will be more next time—three more races before the season is over! Good luck, Tasha, and congratulations!

Gale Forbes finally summoned the courage to try her luck at downhill skiing and after just a few times has conquered many new trails and threatens to become a ski bum. Her motto: "No guts, no glory!"

Welcome back to **Carol Lewis** of Hupi Road, who spent her winter break in France. Carol is back now at her teaching duties in Sharon, Connecticut.

Welcome back also to **David** and **Susan McAllester** of Hupi Road, who recently enjoyed a winter respite in Bermuda.

Very Happy Birthday Wishes to **Barbara Tryon** on January 5, to **Julian Carlos Mendel** on January 13, and to **Eric Craven** on January 25.

— Stephanie Grotz

MOUNTAIN TRAILS
Bed & Breakfast

Rt. 23, Monterey, Mass. 01245
(413) 528-2928
J. Weinstein

CHICKADEE FULFILLMENT

It has been said, though there is some discussion in our family as to by whom, that Thoreau could get more out of ten minutes with a chickadee than most men could from a whole night with Cleopatra. Of course, this is not at all to say that Cleopatra was a bore, rather that a chickadee can be endlessly fascinating, enchanting, and moving, especially to one as observant and receptive to things like chickadees as was Thoreau.

For one thing, it takes a special sort of person to spend ten minutes with a chickadee. Most of us, if we have any experience at all with the dizzying little creatures, find that two seconds is about all we are allotted per chickadee. He lands on the feeder, grabs a seed, takes off. If we concentrate we may be able to follow this individual to a nearby branch and get five more seconds of his time as he whacks open the shell and daintily picks out the fatty kernel inside. Then, suddenly, he's gone again. Meanwhile, some 18 other identical chickadees have been popping in and out of the feeder, turning their smart little heads to right and left in jerky movements before snapping up another seed. How did Thoreau get ten whole minutes?

Thoreau lived in the woods. He didn't keep house or cook much, though he did grow beans and spend a fair amount of time writing. He had long hours and days for observing life around him, and this is just what is needed to learn the ways of the chickadee. Life does not begin and end at the Droll Yankee seed feeder for the pert and social chickadee. It is a seasonably predictable, yet individually varied, series of personal interactions, mostly with other chickadees.

In the winter, we see little groups of chickadees travelling around together. These are the winter feeding flocks, which form up in the late summer and fall and stick together until late in the winter, when love and procreation, favored by warmer weather, demand a less communal life.

The winter feeding flocks are often centered around one mated pair, together since the previous breeding season. There is a social hierarchy within the little flock, and this pair is usually at the top of the pecking order. When you first fill your feeder in the morning, you will see the chickadees waiting impatiently in nearby bushes, hopping about and giving various calls. To you they all sound like "make it snappy," but actually these are "contact calls" heard in flocks of social birds. They mean, "Here I am. Here I am. Where are you?"

If you stand quietly by the feeder with seeds in your hand, you will probably be rewarded by the briefest of visits from the boss of the flock, usually one of the central mated pair. Custom demands that the other, often younger, birds wait until the boss has gone first. If you can stand the cold, maintain your Seed Offering Statue pose with a bare hand and you will be amazed by the strong grasp of those wire-thin feet. (Spread your fingers apart if you want to see what it feels like to be a chickadee perch. Keep the seeds on your flat palm.)

After a lengthy visit to your feeder, the flock suddenly disappears. If you are Thoreau, you put on your old overcoat and snowshoes and follow after them as they make the rounds of their winter feeding territory. These ten or twelve tiny birds claim as much as 20 acres for their own in winter and defend it against other chickadee flocks. At the edges of their territory you may see some action with neighboring clans, including a lot of noisy challenge and riposte: "Chickadee-dee-dee!"

This call is the one most often heard in winter, but by March when the sap is running, this will have changed to a two-note call often known as the "spring song" of the chickadee. Some people think it says "spring soon, spring soon." It is a descending interval, usually of one whole tone, but sometimes more, consisting of a sustained note and then one or two shorter ones. An early writer, F. Schuyler Mathews, praises the chickadee's musical abilities and says the little bird "knows the value of the well-sustained half note . . . . In this regard he is far ahead of the canary, for the latter wastes his energy splitting into hemi-demi-semi quavers every tone within the compass of an octave" (from *Field Book of Wild Birds and their Music*, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1906).

Chickadees nest in hollow trees, often excavating their own nest in a punky birch or enlarging and refurbishing one already made by a woodpecker. During this nest-building period you may see a chickadee fly to a branch, perch, drop a bit of rotten wood, then fly off again. This is the time to follow if you want to find the nest. The building debris is carried away from the nest, presumably to deceive interested parties less intelligent than H. D. Thoreau or us. Carpenter ants, among others, use the same ploy.

In the nest hole six eggs are laid and incubated for 12 days. By the time they are ten days old the young birds are able to feed and fend for themselves, and often the parents will raise another brood that same summer. By the end of August or early in the fall, new feeding flocks will be forming up in preparation for the special problem of surviving the winter.

Chickadee flocks are often joined by other small birds such as titmice, nuthatches, kinglets and downy woodpeckers. This may be partly for social reasons, but certainly the other species, which are not so highly organized, benefit from tagging along with the professional food-finding flock.

Most of the chickadee's food, year round, is insects in

various stages. In winter they pick over rough bark and buds for aphid, canker worm, and coddling moth eggs. One man encouraged chickadees in his orchard during the winter following a summer in which his apple trees had been hit by unusually high numbers of curculios, gypsy moths, and canker worms. The following fall his was the only orchard around, except for the near edge of his neighbor's orchard, which was productive.

• • •

I know Cleopatra was just as fascinating in her way as the black-capped chickadee, but let's face it, she isn't local and most of us won't ever get a chance to check her out. I'd like to see her flitting among our fruit trees, uttering the sustained half-note as she picks off aphid eggs, and I'd love to have her take a sunflower seed from my bare hand. Until she comes around, though, I'll be fulfilled by the handsome little chickadee.

— Bonner J. McAllester

QUESTION

The moon is frozen fire, and high,
Earth's vested still in mail;
Sullen winds rise and cry —
Can spring prevail?

— Dorothy E. Law

RECLINING SOFTLY

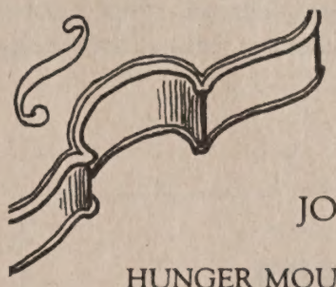
Reclining softly
I dare to dream
Of princes and of beggars
All as one.
Grand magnificence and sweet humility
Together joined to form
The essence of an indomitable love.

Take me to them
Oh deepest reverie,
So that I might breathe in
Their spirit and be free.
And give of it.
To all whom I may touch
And hope that they will
At least
Remember me.

— Rosemary Branagan

HANDMADE WINDSORS
PETER MURKETT
Monterey, Mass. 01245 Tel. 413-528-9937

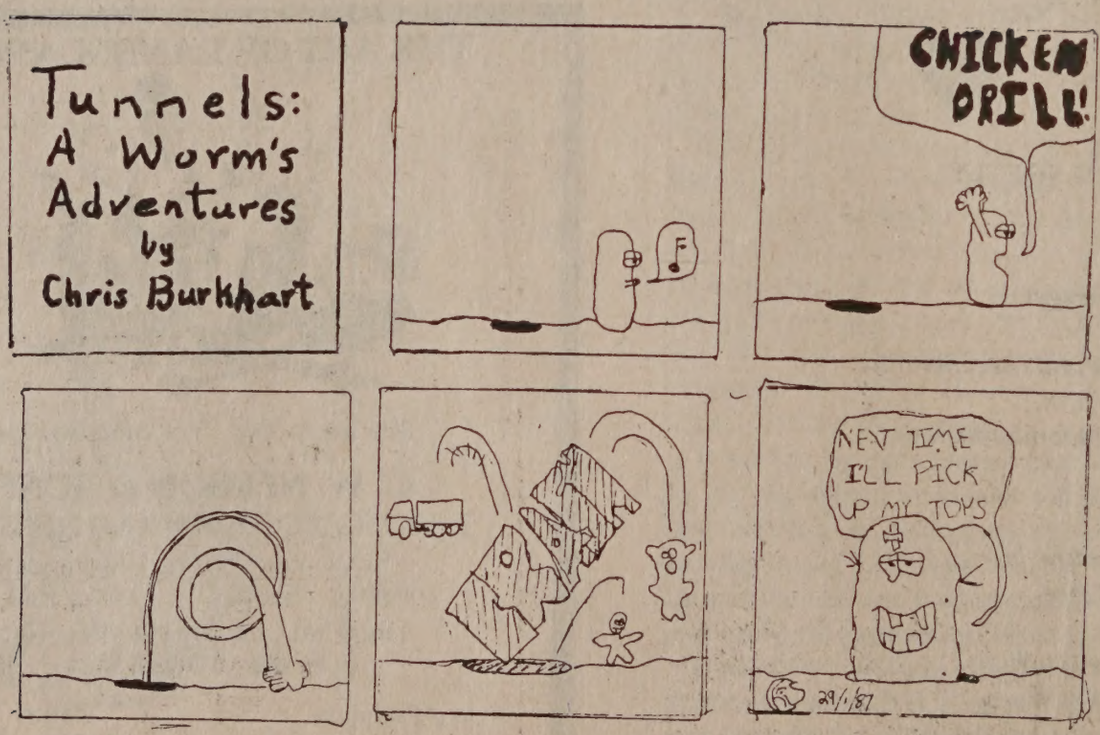
Minna J. Zaret
Heirlooms
Jewelry Classics
413-298-4436
The Mews
Stockbridge, MA.


Stringed Instruments
Made ~ Repaired
Adjusted
JOE BAKER
HUNGER MOUNTAIN INSTRUMENTS
BOX 332, MONTEREY, MASS. 01245
(413) 528-9385

THE ART OF LANDSCAPING

We Invite You To Come See Us
C. W. NELSON & SONS
LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND NURSERY
Retail Yard Opens Weekends
Friday - Sunday 9 - 5 P.M.
Dodd Rd., Sandisfield, MA 01255
Phone: 413-258-3375
* Site Planning
* Grading
* Drainage Work
* Excavating
* Patios
* Stone Work
* Complete Design Services

Wm deKooning



528-4091
0728

BERKSHIRE
MAPLE PRODUCTS
Lowland Farm
Monterey, MA 01245

Grade A maple syrup at our sugar house. Open seven days a week. Now mailing for holiday gift-giving and other year 'round enjoyment.

	New Eng., NY, NJ	All Other States
5 gal.	$155.00	$175.00
1 gal.	34.00	39.00
½ gal.	22.00	24.00
Qt.	12.40	13.30
Pt.	10.60	11.00

Shipping and handling included. Enclose check and telephone no.

MICHELE MILLER

Hidden Valley Ranch
Cuisine Locale
Monterey
Massachusetts 01245

FINE BAKING CATERING
Tel. 413·528-3454

GOULD FARM

At last we have a firm contract for the replacement of the gasoline tanks at the Roadside Store. Work should begin no later than the second of February. Unfortunately, the Roadside Store will need to be closed during some of the work. This will also give us an opportunity to refresh the inside of the store. We hope all the work can be completed in a week's time.

Let's hope for a good end-of-January thaw. The only problem which may slow the tank replacement will be the frost. If the ground is unbreakable, the contractor may not be able to complete his digging and will have to wait for warmer weather.

We continue to appreciate the involvement of local volunteers in our activities at Gould Farm. Ted Tchack leads a writing workshop and chess club. Suzette Alsop teaches art twice a week. Stained-glass items completed by our guests under Fred Leuchs' guidance hang in our living room window.

— Virgil Stucker

SHERIDAN

Seasonal Caretaking
Landscaping

Box 382, Monterey, Mass. 01245
(413) 528-5559

ERIC PEDERSEN
general contractor

NEW HOMES
ADDITIONS
RENOVATIONS

Over 10 Years
Experience
Fully Insured

Route 23, Monterey, MA 01245
(413) 528-4731

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

A disease infects public officials nowadays whether they live in Monterey, New York City or even Washington, D. C. It is called Arrogance of Power, and its symptoms are those corruptions, large and small, which breed when public officials take advantage of their power and station.

While murky details slowly surface concerning violations of Federal law and Constitutional ethics by White House officials and while New York City reels under the weight of its far-reaching municipal scandal, the spotlight of public awareness now shines on Monterey officials and their questionable dealings. Soothing public disclaimer cannot cover up reality. The discovery of truth only results from careful examination of facts, not self-serving rhetoric. Presented here is a response to an ill-considered letter written by Selectmen Chairman Jed P. Lipsky which appeared in the December issue of *Monterey News*.

Lipsky expects the public to believe that the large-scale Mt. Hunger Road reconstruction project begun in April 1986, which quickly followed, by just four months, his purchase of a 350-acre tract of abutting land, was something which would have occurred had any other developer come to town with "hopes and dreams."

His project, to rebuild this road to his land, was paid for out of Town Operating Capital with Town Taxpayer Money. It proceeded without necessary Conservation Commission filings, without public hearings and without any attempt to competitively bid out the work (though Selectmen were notified by the State two years earlier as to legal and proper public-works bidding procedures).

The ease with which Lipsky's road project progressed through the Town bureaucracy is in stark contrast with what every property owner, homebuilder, and developer in Monterey knows to be the facts of life when dealing with Town officials in pursuit of permits, variances, and other officially required approvals.

My guess is that it was hoped this project could be done quickly and quietly. The isolated nature of the road itself aided that goal. I say this because as late as July, when work was half complete and the town was teeming with summer residents, few people had heard of the project's existence. Only after a bulletin was distributed by this writer did it become common knowledge.

Lipsky expects the public to believe this entire affair was totally without conflict of interest and had nothing whatsoever to do with his being a Selectman, Chairman of the Roads and Machinery Committee, and Conservation Committee member. He says he offered to resign. Did he expect the other Selectmen and Roads Committeemen to actually accept? To imply they would is self-serving gibberish.

Lipsky says in his letter, "The State Flood Fund is a reimbursement fund account." He implies the Mt. Hunger Road project falls under that program. Fact: State repayment documents are on file at DPW in Lenox under "Flood Damage, Storm of May 28-May 31, 1984." According to these, final reimbursement payment from the State for all flood work resulting from the 1984 spring floods was issued December 27, 1985 (DPW reference: "Monterey — 1984 Heavy Rains," pg. 5). By that time, the Monterey Highway Department and Tryon Construction Company had repaired all scheduled roads and used up the entire $313,250 allocation. *There was no more State flood money coming to Monterey.* This is indisputable and easily verified since these documents are open to the public.

The Lipsky-Mt. Hunger Road project did not begin until April 1986. It is still unfinished. No State flood monies will be forthcoming to pay for it, now or in the future. Had flood work been done on Mt. Hunger Road prior to the December 1985 payout, *the maximum allotment by the State specifically for this work was to be exactly and only $2,681. Repeat: $2,681* (DPW reference: "Monterey — List of Damaged Roads").

Despite what Lipsky wishes others to believe, Town money (local taxpayer money), not State funds, unquestionably paid for this project. Worse yet, no vote or discussion on the merits, wisdom, or funding of this major capital road project was ever initiated at Town Meeting. Instead, Town officials were pleading for a Tax Override on the grounds they could not make ends meet.

In good conscience, how could Lipsky and the other Selectmen allege there was a deficit and ask taxpayers for a $165,000 tax hike (Proposition 2½ Override) while at least $55,000 (not the $20,000 alleged by Lipsky) was being squandered on a major road project unapproved by voters (which project would help no other resident but Lipsky).

In my opinion, summer residents, who are not allowed to vote on Town financial matters, are the ones who ultimately shoulder most of the burden of Lipsky's road *and the tax hike.* It is my belief that Lipsky and the other Selectmen know this all too well and even count on it.

It is unnecessary to comment on the relationship these past many years between Town officials and the Tryon Construction Company. In my opinion, the scope, depth, and profitability of that arrangement is self-evident, but the result of this relationship is that State laws have been wilfully broken by Town officials for a period of many years. Competitive bidding laws protect taxpayers, and stiff criminal penalties exist for non-compliance. Just because it is assumed that other towns in the area are violating the law (to the detriment of their taxpayers) is no excuse to condone illegal behavior in Monterey.

Arrogance of Power is a swamp wherein politicians mire themselves. Whether they are from the White House, the streets of New York, or the Berkshire foothills does not matter because their modus is always the same: *The governing authority conveniently disregards laws with which it disagrees or by which it feels constrained.* This is not only undemocratic but reprehensible to a system built upon laws. The long-term effect on government is crippling. How can this possibly work for Monterey?

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn M. Heller

To the Editor:

The January *News* has carried a partial answer to Jed Lipsky's lengthy one in the December issue. All public officials must face that "hot kitchen" at some time and realize that it goes with the territory. It has been said that elected officials must be like Caesar's wife, "above suspicion." The pull of the current Gold Rush must be outside local government, and when it intrudes the participants must withdraw. Conflict of interest is not mitigated or lessened by any statute which asks only for admittance of involvement as an absolvement of same. Divestiture or complete withdrawal is more the answer.

The striping of town paved roads is not a sometime thing. I don't believe the selectmen should encourage the cavalier driving habits of some by this omission. Mr. Heller was right on in this instance.

I was surprised to learn that the state had funds which were not the result of taxation. It's not true. All monies from the state are collected by taxes. Flood monies, whatever was used to fix roads to and from Mt. Hunger are public monies. The Town fathers who let that road go fallow were acting in the best interests of the Town. I have not heard a word to the contrary in my thirty-one years in town. The Albany stage was discontinued in the last century.

Regarding the repairs of Mt. Hunger Road, as mentioned, a good argument could be made for the owners to do that work, as it appears that the sums mentioned must be a small part of the purchase price of that 350 acres. All this to be done as by motivated citizens of the town.

The stewardship of the town has been good. I notice most of the realtors are not on any town boards, commissions, etc., which could engender conflicts.

In closing, I hope some help is forthcoming for those 14 families on that private road. Have the Town take over the road, and please use some of that flood money there.

Sincerely,

Bjorn (Del) Jenssen

To the editor:

I read every issue of the paper, but I enjoyed the December issue more than usual.

Shades of the big city! Intimations of conflict of interest and what have you. It makes for spirited reading and shows that although one might think that the town tries to avoid the 20th century at times, it faces up to and accepts the challenge of life today (which I feel are all opportunities).

Aside from that, I wish continued success to the paper and hope that Mr. Palin enjoys Monterey after his stint on Fairmount Avenue.

Sincerely,

James C. Pearson, Jr.

PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL ATTENTION TO ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS.

Barnbrook Realty, Inc.
72 Stockbridge Road
Great Barrington, Mass. 01230
Bus. 528-4423 • Res. 528-0006
(MONTEREY)

CAROL LEWIS

Benchmark Real Estate

For personal, professional real estate services.

Monterey Office: 528-9595
Otis Village Office: 269-4089

Nancy Kalodner, Broker/Realtor®

We are always looking for Outdoor Work. . .

PLANTING TREES & SHRUBS
REMOVING DEAD TREES
CUTTING TRAILS & VISTAS
MOWING BRUSH & WEEDS
PARKING WOODLANDS
PRUNING TREES & SHRUBS
MULCHING PLANTING BEDS
BUILDING STONE WALLS
REPAIRING DRIVEWAYS/POTHOLES
GRADING & SEEDING LAWNS
PROPERTY CLEAN-UPS
SAFE BURNING
INSTALLING FENCES
PATIOS & RR/TIE WORK
CLEANING GUTTERS
DRAINAGE PROBLEMS
LOCAL TRUCKING OR MOVING
SAND, GRAVEL, STONE, TOPSOIL
SNOW PLOWING/SANDING

• • • • •

PROFESSIONAL MUSCLE WITH HUSTLE
EXPERIENCED/INSURED/RELIABLE

• • • • •

JOHN C. INGERSOLL
LANDSCAPING & TREE SERVICE
(413) 229-8124

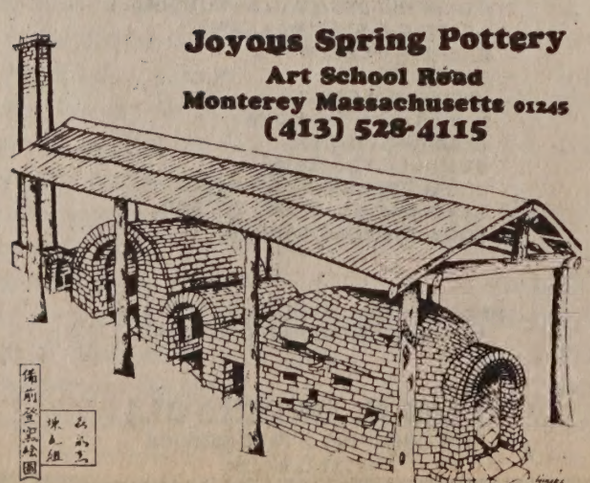
MONTEREY

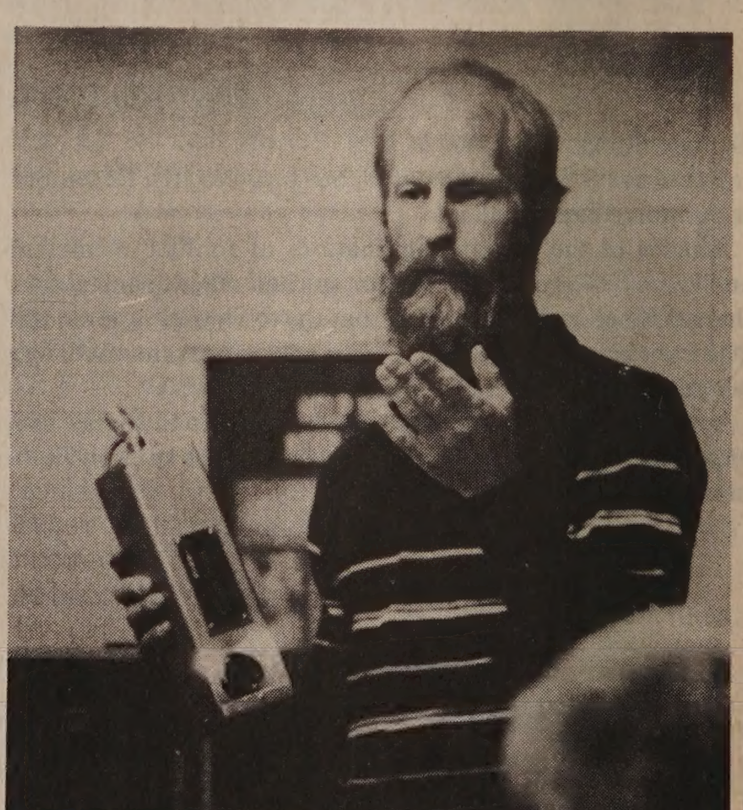
GENERAL STORE

Serving Monterey
for over 200 years

Route 23, Monterey
528-4437
Open 7 days
a week

Joyous Spring Pottery
Art School Road
Monterey Massachusetts 01245
(413) 528-4115





Donald B. Victor

Larry Bates demonstrates chimney safety at a Community Supper last fall.

CONTRIBUTORS

With many thanks:

Lillian and Mickey Wright—It is so nice to read of Monterey "happenings" while we are away .... See you and all our neighbors in the spring.

Ed and Gladys Dunlop—We always enjoy the lively articles each month.

Edward E. Brosseau—Enclosed is my check that I may contribute to the future of your much appreciated paper.

Dr. and Mrs. William B. Oislander—We look forward to receiving the *News*, the only periodical that changes addresses correctly.

Nan Merrill—How grateful I am for the touch of home each month through the *Monterey News*—beams of sunshine from the Berkshires into the inner city of Detroit! Thanks ....

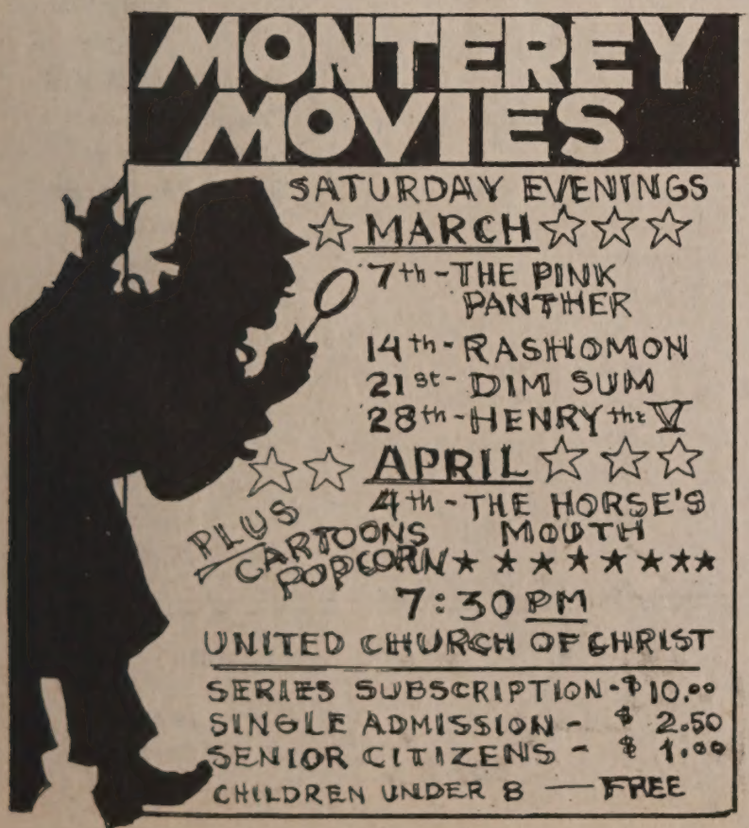
Jeannette Thomas

Dorothy Law

Debbie and Stephen Reddy

Est. 20 years
Personalized service

Corashire Realty
New Marlboro Stage, Gt. Barrington, MA 01230
Nancy Dinan, Broker
Deborah Mielke, Broker
Rick Mielke, Assoc.
413-528-0014 or 1871
Listings Needed
MLS



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monterey Ski Day

Friday, February 13—Monterey Ski Day at Butternut: reduced rates for Monterey folks and wine and cheese get-together. Information, Stephanie Grotz or Dean Amidon.

Square and Contra Dance

Saturday, February 14—Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker; music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults, $3.50; children, $1 to dance until intermission. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

Community Supper

Wednesday, February 25—Community Supper in the basement of the church, 6:30 p.m. Bring your prize pot-luck creation and astonish and gratify your neighbors.

Guided Imagery & Music

Saturday, February 28—"Exploring Guided Imagery & Music," 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Self-discovery workshop with the support of classical music. Information: Ann Eggers at 528-3748.

Square and Contra Dance

Saturday, February 28—Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. This program is for people who have done it before. Joe Baker, calling; music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Admission: $3.50. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

FURNISHED ROOM WANTED

Furnished room wanted in Monterey with kitchen privileges. Will exchange for services rendered. Rosemary Branagan. 425 Old Monterey Road, Great Barrington, Mass. 01230/ 528-5077.

Specializing in country homes and estates, vacation homes, acreage and commercial properties.

WILLIAM BROCKMAN
REAL ESTATE
FIDDLETOP • MONTEREY • MASSACHUSETTS 01245
413 528 - 4859

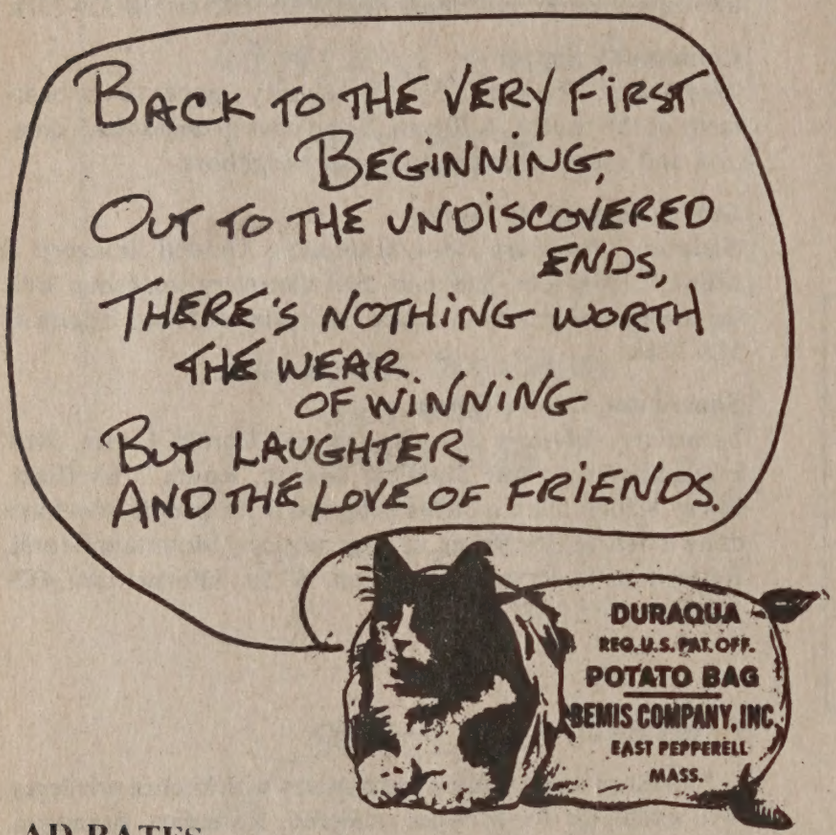
Rick Mielke

Seasonal Caretaking/Landscaping

Lakefront Cleanup — Snowplowing
Retaining Walls — Sanding
Walkways — Clearing

Year round maintenance of your home and grounds

12 years' service Box 211, Main Road, Monterey 01245 / 528-0864



AD RATES

One-inch classified ads (1" x 3 5/8")...$2.50

Two-inch business cards (2" x 3 5/8")...5.00

Three-inch size (3" x 3 5/8")...7.50

Four-inch size (4" x 3 5/8")...10.00

Back cover ads are double the above prices. No classifieds on the back cover. Copy should reach the editor by the 20th of the month before publication. In general, we cannot run letters more than one column in length.

PARK COMMISSION PATTER

Our big news is the revival of the skating rink. With Dek Tillett enthusiastically at the helm, Steve Small and Leroy Thorpe at his side and volunteers including the Isaac Walton League, the skating rink is alive and well again, and we invite all skating enthusiasts to come and use it.

The hours of work involved in creating it were around 60 hours for the men, not to mention maintenance from here on in. Special thanks to Kenny Heath, Roger Tryon, Ray Tryon, and the Isaac Walton League. All weather affects it—melting, rain, snow—either improving or ruining a fine surface. Experience teaches, and if this year is good next year will be better.

Dek's dreams are lights, music, lessons and seating. He is also talking about a Monterey Winter Carnival. Sounds just great. Keep your eyes and ears open.

The Monterey Ski Day at Butternut Basin will be on February 13. Channing allows Monterey folks to ski at reduced rates, and we have a wine and cheese get together at the end of the day. Contact Stephanie Grotz or Dean Amidon for more information. We have a larger group every year.

— Steve Small, Dek Tillett, and Fran Amidon

MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met January 21 at the Worthy Lecturer's home for a regular meeting. Plans were discussed for various fund raisers; hobo refreshments were served, and there was a hobo grab bag.

The Grange was invited to Youth Night at Stockbridge on January 23, also to the regional meeting at Pittsfield Grange #14 on January 24.

The next meeting will be on February 18 at a joint meeting with Great Barrington Grange #265.

Fraternally,

Mary Wallace

Editor	David P. McAllester
Business Manager	Priscilla Gulliver
Youth Editor	Shelby Loder
Art Editor	Bonner McAllester
Personal Notes Editor	Stephanie Grotz
Typesetter	Eileen Clawson
Reporters	Judith Claire-Owen
	Ellen K. Pearson
Layout and design	Susan McAllester
Pasteup	Tim Freeman
Sorting	Stella Bodnar
Mailing Labels	Virgil Stucker and the Gould Farm Computer

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MONTEREY, MASSACHUSETTS
01245

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Monterey, MA
Permit #2